

# 2 Samuel 14:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then the king answered and said unto the woman, Hide not from me, I pray thee, the thing that I shall ask thee. And the woman said, Let my lord the king now speak.

## Analysis

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**Then the king answered and said unto the woman, Hide not from me, I pray thee, the thing that I shall ask thee. And the woman said, Let my lord the king now speak.**

This verse contributes to the narrative of Absalom's Return, emphasizing incomplete reconciliation. Joab's elaborate scheme to restore Absalom demonstrates human wisdom that undermines divine purposes. The partial reconciliation (Absalom returns but doesn't see David's face) proves insufficient for genuine restoration. Theological themes include the inadequacy of human reconciliation methods apart from genuine repentance, the danger of manipulation even for apparently good ends, and the necessity of complete rather than partial restoration.

## Historical Context

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The historical setting of 2 Samuel 14 occurs during David's reign (circa 1010-970 BCE) over Israel's united monarchy. Archaeological discoveries, including the Tel Dan inscription mentioning the 'House of David,' corroborate biblical historicity. Ancient Near Eastern customs regarding incomplete reconciliation provide crucial background. The geopolitical situation involved regional powers—Philistines, Ammonites, Arameans, Moabites, Edomites—as David consolidated and expanded Israel's territory. Cultural practices concerning kingship, warfare, covenant

relationships, family dynamics, and religious observance differed significantly from modern Western contexts, requiring careful attention to avoid anachronistic interpretation while extracting timeless theological principles applicable across cultures and eras.

## **Related Passages**

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**Matthew 25:31** — Final judgment

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## **Study Questions**

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1. How does this passage deepen your understanding of incomplete reconciliation?
2. What does this verse reveal about God's character, and how should that shape your worship and obedience?
3. In what specific ways can you apply this truth to your current circumstances and relationships this week?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיַּעַן	הַמֶּלֶךְ:	אֶל	וְתֵּן אָמַר	הָאִשָּׁה הַ	אֶל	וְאֵל
<b>answered</b>	<b>Then the king</b>	<b>and said</b>	H413	<b>thee And the woman</b>	H408	H4994
H6030	H4428	H559		H802		
תִּכְחֹד־י	מִמֶּנִּי	דִּבֶּר		אֲשֶׁר		אֲנֹכִי
<b>Hide</b>	H4480	<b>not from me I pray thee the thing</b>		H834	H595	
H3582		H1697				
שֶׁאֶל	אֶתְּךָ	וְתֵּן אָמַר	הָאִשָּׁה הַ	יְדַבֵּר		וְאֵל
<b>that I shall ask</b>	H853	<b>and said</b>	<b>thee And the woman</b>	<b>now speak</b>		H4994
H7592		H559	H802	H1696		
אֲדֹנָי	הַמֶּלֶךְ:					
<b>Let my lord</b>	<b>Then the king</b>					
H113	H4428					

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